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BOROUGH OF GILLINGHAM



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BOROUGH OF GILLINGHAM



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1964

HELEN E. MAIR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Health Department,
Municipal Buildings,
Gillingham, Kent.

Telephone : Medway OME 4 50021

THE JOURNAL OF THE



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Health Department,
Municipal Buildings,
Gillingham, Kent.

Telephone: Medway 50021

November, 1965.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Gillingham.

I am pleased to submit my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1964. This has been a year of consolidation of the services and of plans for expansion in the future. We watched with growing enthusiasm the progress of the Twydall Clinic from the drawing board to the completed clinic, which will be opened at the beginning of 1965. This Clinic will meet the demand on the Twydall Estate that has not been adequately catered for at the rented premises in Goudhurst Road and it is there in 1965 that we hope to open Special Care Clinics for the under five handicapped which received the County Council's approval during 1964. Attendances at the other infant welfare clinics have increased and extra sessions have been necessary to cope with the demand.

There is still, however, a great shortage of health visitors in the borough and the work of the clinics and of visiting the under fives at home is making great demands on the small staff we have.

The appointment during the year of an assistant district officer has increased the volume of work passing through the hands of the welfare services: as is true of all services, the demands on that service increase as its provisions are made more widely known and only by increasing the staff in this section can these provisions be made known by individual visits to those in need in their homes.

A full time craft instructor is employed in the borough and she has been able to visit many home bound handicapped people to give them craft work which will be sold at displays in the town during the coming year.

The public health section of the department operated under great difficulties during the year owing to staff shortages and it was necessary to report to the Committee on a number of occasions the concern we felt because we could not protect the public, particularly in relation to food hygiene, or give them the service to which they were entitled. The appointment of two technical assistants during the year to deal initially with the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act has made possible the operation of this Act in the borough.

I would like to thank the Council for their support and the staff of the Health Department for their enthusiastic work during the year.

HELEN E. MAIR

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF PUBLIC HEALTH, SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE, AND COUNTY COUNCIL
DELEGATED HEALTH SERVICES

Medical Officer of Health:

Helen E. Mair, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

J. E. J. Hurman, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H.

Assistant Medical Officer:

L. M. Corall, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., (commenced 27.4.64)

Assistant Medical Officers: (sessional)

A. L. Kelly, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.

N. P. Browne, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.

J. Ruffell, M.B., Ch.B.

R. Nichol, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Ophthalmologist: (S.H.S.)

J. D. Clark, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.O.M.S. (part-time)

Dental Surgeons: (S.H.S.)

William C. Griffiths, L.D.S., R.C.S. (part-time)

H. Causey, L.D.S. (part-time)

D. W. Kyle, B.D.S. (part-time)

A. W. Wallace, L.D.S. (part-time)

Chief Public Health Inspector:

F. J. Hedgecock, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Cert. Inst. Mun.E.
(died February, 1965)

Senior Public Health Inspector:

R. C. Langley, M.A.P.H.I.
(died February, 1965)

Public Health Inspectors:

F. G. Barney, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

H. Moule, C.R.S.H.

N. Smith, M.A.P.H.I.

R. Nethercott, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (commenced 14.9.64)

J. A. Croydon, A.R.S.H. (commenced 16.11.64)

Student Public Health Inspector:

J. P. Chatfield

Technical Assistants:

Mr. R. Taylor (commenced 1.10.64)

Mr. B. C. Woodard (commenced 1.10.64)

Health Visitors: (D.H.S./S.H.S.)

M. Crowther, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.
B. M. Fry, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.
E. W. Jordan, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert. (Rtd. 1.7.64)
J. Tombleson, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.
D. G. Purt, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.
F. M. Tomlin, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.
H. V. Wilson, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert. (Rtd. 24.3.64)
M. M. Wood, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.
W. Clements, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert. (Commenced 1.1.64)
J.H. Kenney, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert. (Commenced 20.4.64)
J. A. Hewitt, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert. (part-time)

District Nurses: (D.H.S.)

A. M. Darley, S.R.N.
E. C. Davidson, S.R.N.
J. P. Davis, S.R.N.
O. Fenske, S.R.N.
E. J. Flynn, S.R.N.
O. J. Hyland, S.R.N.
F. M. McGargle, S.R.N.
F. B. Morris, S.R.N., S.C.M.
M. H. Rayner, S.R.N., S.C.M.
O. Stirzaker, S.R.N.
A. T. Stonehouse, S.R.N.
R. Warden, S.R.N. (commenced 27.1.64)
M. Turpin, S.R.N.
H. Waterman, S.R.N.
B. D. Frapple, S.E.A.N. (part-time)

Midwives: (D.H.S.)

M. A. Baldwin, S.R.N., S.C.M.
E. Daly, S.R.N., S.C.M.
K. Holland, S.R.N., S.C.M.
V. C. Hopkins, S.R.N., S.C.M.
K. Lowry, S.C.M.
G. M. McGregor, S.R.N., S.C.M.
M. M. Shorey, S.R.N., S.C.M.
S. I. Shorey, S.E.A.N., S.C.M.
P. A. Tatman, S.R.N., S.C.M., (resigned 16.12.64)
B. E. Foote, S.R.N., S.C.M. (commenced 17.12.64)
M. E. White, S.C.M.

Chief Administrative Assistant:

S. Pett, T.D.

District Officer:

M. Clegg (died 4.5.64)
P. E. King (commenced 1.6.64)

Assistant District Officer:

J. M. Preston (commenced 1.9.64)

Craft Instructor:

G. H. Gibson (commenced 4.8.64)

Domestic Help Organiser:

J. M. Preston (resigned 1.8.64)

D. E. Hammond (commenced 1.9.64)

Senior Administrative Assistant:

M. McKeen

Clerks:

H. Gomersall (resigned 14.3.64)

R. C. Thomas (S.H.S.)

C. Kirkpatrick (commenced 2.3.64)

P. Rome (D.H.S.)

J. Kelso (D.H.S.)

J. Weir (D.H.S.)

M. M. Morris (D.H.S.)

C. Greenfield (S.H.S.)

B. McCauley

N. Pett (Clinic Clerk - D.H.S.)

Shorthand/Typists:

K. M. Kingsland

B. W. Reid

Dental Surgery Assistants: (S.H.S.)

A. F. Wootton

A. E. Turner

Disinfector:

T. Stevenson (commenced 2.3.64)

Rodent Operative:

W. E. Goodwin

N.B. - D.H.S. - Delegated Health Service
S.H.S. - School Health Service

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in acres (land, inland water and foreshore)	11,201
Rateable Value (April, 1964)	£2,413,764
The sum represented by a penny rate (1964-65)	10,310
In 1964-65 the total Rate was 9/2 and the water rate 1/2 in the £.	

Extracts from Vital Statistics

Total Population (Registrar-General)	77,070
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Live Births

Number of Live Births	1,476
Rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population	19.2
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births	7.1

Stillbirths

Number of Still Births	19
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	12.7
Total Live and Still Births	1,495
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	26

Infant Mortality Rates

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	17.6
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	17.5
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	19.5
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	10.8
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	10.2
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	21.4

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of deaths	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	0.0

Deaths (all causes)

Rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population	10.6
---	------

	Males			Females		
	Total	Legit.	Illegit.	Total	Legit.	Illegit.
Live Births	746	702	44	730	669	61
Still Births	7	6	1	12	12	-
<u>Deaths of Infants</u>						
Under 1 year of age	9	9	-	17	15	-
Under 4 weeks of age	6	6	-	10	10	-
Under 1 week of age	6	6	-	9	9	-

Analysis of Infant Deaths during 1964

<u>Cause of Death</u>	<u>Age at Death</u>	
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>under</u>	<u>under</u>
	<u>1</u>	<u>1 year</u>
	<u>month</u>	
Prematurity	5	-
Congenital abnormalities	5	2
Pulmonary causes	6	8
All causes	<u>16</u>	<u>10</u>

Deaths of infants under 1 year numbered 26, which represents an infant mortality rate of 17.6 per 1,000 live births.

The rate for England and Wales was 20.0 per 1,000 relative live-births.

Maternal Mortality

There were no deaths associated with pregnancy.

Causes of Deaths amongst Civilians, Live and Still Births
as provided by the Registrar-General

Causes of Death								Male	Female	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	-	1
3.	Syphilitic disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	-	1
4.	Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
5.	Whooping cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
8.	Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	1	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	10	23
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	..	..	..	..	..	..	26	3	29
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	23	23
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	6	6
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	..	..	..	..	..	..	37	45	82
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	2	5
16.	Diabetes	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	3	7
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	..	..	..	..	..	..	44	67	111
18.	Coronary disease, angina	..	..	..	..	..	..	102	68	170
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	26	35
20.	Other heart disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	33	53	86
21.	Other circulatory disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	24	36
22.	Influenza	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
23.	Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	16	23	39
24.	Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	27	8	35
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3	6
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	5	12
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	-	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	3
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	-	4
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	5	8
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	33	52
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	1	13
34.	All other accidents	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	6	18
35.	Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4	8
36.	Homicide and operations of war	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
All causes								395	420	815

Deaths in Public Institutions

397 or 48.7 of the total, took place in Institutions.

Natural Increase of Population

This is measured by the excess of births over deaths. The figure for the year 1964 was 651 and for previous years as follows:

<u>Year</u>											<u>Natural Increase of Population</u>
1955	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	339
1956	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	386
1957	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	462
1958	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	413
1959	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	421
1960	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	509
1961	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	446
1962	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	528
1963	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	549
1964	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	651

Cancer

							<u>Cancer Death Rate</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Deaths</u>
1955	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.7	18.2
1956	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.8	17.5
1957	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.9	19.8
1958	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.9	18.6
1959	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.9	17.5
1960	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.0	20.7
1961	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.2	19.3
1962	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.2	19.6
1963	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.9	16.7
1964	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.1	20.0

Violence

Deaths from motor vehicle accidents numbered 13, from suicide 8, and from "all other accidents" 18.

ANALYSIS OF BIRTHS AND INFANT DEATHS FOR THE YEARS 1954 to 1964

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
Number of still births	28	22	15	24	31	28	28	26	35	19
Number of neo-natal deaths	23	15	19	20	19	13	23	17	16	16
Total number of still-births and neo-natal deaths	51	37	34	44	40	41	51	43	51	35
Number of deaths of infants 1 to 12 months of age	14	8	12	9	5	6	5	10	15	10
Number of live births	1093	1199	1245	1208	1232	1268	1264	1363	1425	1476
Number of still births	28	22	15	24	31	28	28	26	35	19
Total live and still births	1121	1221	1260	1232	1263	1296	1292	1389	1460	1495

MORTALITY RATES CALCULATED PER 1,000 LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS

Still births	25	18	12	19	24	22	22	19	24	13
Neo-natal deaths	20	12	15	16	15	10	18	12	11	11
Perinatal deaths	-	-	-	-	13	23	37	30	33	21
Deaths of infants 1 to 12 months of age	12	6	9	7	4	4	4	7	10	7
Still births and all deaths up to 1 year	58	37	36	43	44	36	39	39	45	30
Infant mortality per 1,000 live births	34	19	25	24	19	15	22	20	22	18

Prevalence of, and Control Over Infectious and Other Diseases

Table showing:- (a) The distribution in age groups of infectious disease cases notified during 1964.
 (b) The number removed to hospital.

Notifiable Disease	CASES NOTIFIED (Diagnosis Corrected)							Removed to Hospital
	Years							
	All Ages	Under 5	5-14	15-44	45-64	65 and Over	Age Unknown	
Pneumonia	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Erysipelas	11	2	8	1	-	-	-	-
Influenzal Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Menigicoccal Meningitis	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1

Table showing:- (a) The distribution in age groups of infectious disease cases notified during 1964.

(b) The number removed to hospital.

Notifiable Disease	CASES NOTIFIED (Diagnosis Corrected)										Removed to Hospital
	Years										
	All Ages	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25 and Over	Age Unknown		
Scarlet fever ..	7	-	-	-	5	2	-	-	-	-	
Whooping cough ..	10	3	2	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Measles	283	12	68	59	131	8	-	3	2	1	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Dysentery	16	-	1	2	6	3	2	-	2	-	

Particulars of patients from the Gillingham Area dealt with at the Chest Clinic, during 1964.

(These figures were kindly supplied by Dr. H. J. Robinson, Consultant Chest Physician).

	Adults		Children		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Pulmonary	22	7	4	5	26	12
Non-pulmonary	1	3	2	-	3	3
Total	23	10	6	5	29	15

Total attendances numbered 1,611.

Number of patients sent to Sanatoriums or Hospitals - 24.

Venereal Diseases

I am indebted to Dr. C. D. Routh, Director of the Medway and Gravesend Hospital Management Committee's Special Clinic in Rochester, for the subjoined figures.

New Patients - Gillingham:

Syphilis	5
Gonorrhoea	17
Other conditions	95
Total	<u>117</u>

Nursing Homes - Public Health Act, 1936

There were 2 Nursing Homes on the Register at the end of the year, which provided 39 beds for aged persons.

Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
Number on Register at 1st January, 1964	524	91	615
Number on Register at 31st December, 1964	514	85	599

Notifications

Table compiled from local records, giving details with regard to sex, age, etc., of notified new cases during 1964.

Age Periods	New Cases			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years	2	2	1	2
5-14 years	1	2	2	-
15-24 years	4	-	-	-
25-44 years	4	4	-	2
45-64 years	9	-	-	1
65 and over	1	2	-	-
Total	21	10	3	5

Tuberculosis Death Rate

The following table is inserted for purposes of comparison:

Year	Death Rates per 1,000 of Population		
	All Forms	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1955	0.03	0.02	0.01
1956	0.10	0.08	0.02
1957	0.07	0.06	0.01
1958	0.12	0.12	0.00
1959	0.09	0.09	0.00
1960	0.02	0.02	0.00
1961	0.11	0.11	0.00
1962	0.05	0.04	0.01
1963	0.08	0.05	0.03
1964	0.01	0.00	0.01

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

The day to day work of the Public Health Inspectorate affects the lives of the public in numerous ways. The maintenance of good housing conditions, the safeguarding of food and water supplies, the cleanliness of the atmosphere, welfare in shops and offices - all of these and many other matters come within the purview of the Health Inspector. When one considers the amount of food which is eaten, both at home and in restaurants and canteens, the amount of water which is used in one way or another, and the thousands of gallons of milk which are consumed - all with a small number of complaints - it can be seen that proper measures of control are being taken. In addition the clearance of areas of unfit properties, the closure or demolition of unfit houses and basements and continued efforts to ensure that the air is clean all play their part in the creation of a healthy environment. A good deal of organisation and effort is required to keep such a state of affairs in being and unfortunately it has to be recorded that during the year under review a great deal of routine inspection could not be undertaken due to shortage of staff.

Housing

The Council has completed its Slum Clearance Programme and although individual houses are, from time to time, brought forward for closure or demolition, and there are some areas which might be described as borderline, the general state of housing in the borough is fairly good. Experience has shown that a high and ever increasing proportion of older houses are becoming owner/occupied with a subsequent high degree of maintenance. The deterioration in the state of the houses which are brought forward for closure and demolition has usually come about through the owner's inability to maintain the property in a satisfactory condition.

A Sub-Committee of the Central Housing Advisory Committee has been appointed to review the question of housing standards and the identification of slums. It may be that this Committee's findings will necessitate a fresh survey, with the possibility of some borderline areas being found to be below the new standard.

The table given overleaf summarises the housing work carried out during the year.

Housing Summary

Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:-

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	516
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	1987
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Regulations ..	-
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	-
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	8
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	198

Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	114
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Action under statutory powers during the year:-

(a) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	17
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
	(a) By owners	17
	(b) By local authority in default of owners ..	-

(b) Proceedings under Housing Acts:-

(1)	Demolition Orders	3
(2)	Closing Orders	8
(3)	Undertakings not to re-let for human habitation ..	-
(4)	Houses demolished during 1964 as the result of formal action under the Act	3

Control of Food and Food Premises

Food Hygiene

There are 639 premises in the borough from which food is sold and they can be placed in the following main categories:

- 45 Cafes and Restaurants
- 33 Fishmongers
- 34 Bakers
- 85 Butchers
- 112 Grocers
- 71 Fruiterers and Greengrocers
- 259 General Shops

So far as the provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations are concerned every effort is made to get the shopkeepers and proprietors to adopt an outlook which will ensure that good hygiene is practiced and thus reduce the need for prosecution. It has often been said that the customers can help tremendously by insisting on these same standards themselves.

722 visits were made to food premises during the year and although, in the main, no serious contraventions came to light, numerous improvements were effected. It was found necessary to report to the Health Committee the bad condition of one restaurant, and on the Committee's instructions increased supervision produced the necessary improvement.

There were 9 bakehouses on the register at the end of 1964 and they received 54 visits during the year. When contraventions were found the desired improvement was achieved by informal action.

Food and Drugs Acts - Sampling, etc.

157 samples of various foods and 35 samples of medicine and drugs were submitted to the public analyst for examination. Six of these samples were reported to be unsatisfactory, viz:

The volatile oil in a sample of ground cloves was well below the B.P.C. requirement and following correspondence with the wholesaler the whole stock was withdrawn and destroyed.

Tincture of quinine was wrongly labelled and deficient in ammonia. Unsatisfactory storage was suspected of being the cause of loss of ammonia and the remaining stock was withdrawn and destroyed.

A sample of pure apple juice had a growth of mould mycelium in it. The product was closed with a metal screw cap which did not give a complete seal and although the manufacturers found that this defect appeared at a frequency of less than 0.01% the use of the screw caps had been replaced by crown corks which gave a complete seal.

Rum truffles which were deficient in alcohol content were withdrawn from sale. They had been made to an old recipe no longer used.

A sample of cheese spread was very slightly deficient in fat content. An examination of photostat copies of analyst's reports from the manufacturers showed that they kept a close check on this matter.

Wrong labelling of a sample of Borax and Honey was taken up with the chemist concerned.

Food complaints

20 complaints were received in respect of various items of food purchased by members of the public during 1964. 7 of these concerned foreign bodies in the product, 8 were in respect of mould or some similar condition and 3 were about dirty milk bottles. Two of the complaints were unfounded. Proceedings were taken in four cases against the firms concerned, 2 for selling mouldy sausages, 1 for selling mouldy chocolate rolls and one for selling a pasty containing a safety pin. Fines were imposed in the first three cases and the defendant received a discharge in the last.

Complaints regarding mouldy products usually make their appearance during the summer months when conditions are ideal for the growth of the mould. The cause is usually bad storage and absence of proper stock rotation. The public health inspectors point this out to the shop keepers on their visits. It is hoped that the proposed revisions to the Food Hygiene Regulations will contain suitable standards as to the temperatures at which perishable foods may be stored and displayed.

Milk distribution is mostly in the hands of large organisations today and they go to considerable trouble and expense to ensure that bottles are cleansed and sterilised properly. However their equipment is not infallible and in the end they rely on the human element, thus complaints regarding dirty bottles do crop up from time to time. It cannot be overstressed that the public can help greatly in this matter by ensuring that all bottles are well rinsed before they are put out for collection by the roundsman.

Milk

There were 241 dairies and milk distributors on the register at the end of 1964 and 192 visits were made during the year.

144 samples were submitted to the laboratory for bacteriological examination and failure in the methylene blue test was reported in 9 cases. No failure was reported so far as the phosphatase test was concerned. Appropriate action was taken when failure was reported.

Samples examined for fat and solid content all proved satisfactory.

Unsound food

The total weight of various foods inspected and condemned as unfit for consumption amounted to 1 ton 10 cwt. 2 qtrs.

Merchandise Marks Act

39 inspections were carried out and these were chiefly in connection with fresh and dried fruit and meat marking. No contraventions were observed.

Public Health Inspection, Nuisances, etc.

Action taken under the general public health legislation is summarised below:

Preliminary and Abatement Notices

During the year the following notices were served:

Informal Notices for the abatement of various nuisances	..	49
Abatement Notices concerning various nuisances (Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936)	.. .. .	8
Section 24 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (Maintenance of a public sewer)	.. .. .	69
Section 39 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (Defective sanitary appliance)	.. .. .	8
Section 44 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (Construction of W.C.)	-	
Section 45 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (Notice to repair defective closet)	.. .. .	2
Section 50 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (Leaking Cesspools)	-	
Gillingham Corporation Act, 1931, Section 72, respecting choked or defective drains	.. .. .	16
Section 56 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (Yard Paving)	.. ..	1
Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1957 (Provision of Dustbins)	.. .. .	1
Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957 (notice to execute works)		9
Total	.. .. .	163

Nuisances Abated

Water Closets:

Wash basins provided	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
New pans and traps fitted	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Water closets re-built	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
New water closets constructed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Water closet fittings repaired (water)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Water closet seats, doors, floors, brickwork repaired								38

Water Supply:

Pipes repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Internal supply provided	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-

Yards:

Drained and paved with cement concrete	16
--	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

Sinks and Baths:

Glazed stoneware sinks fixed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Sink waste pipes provided and fixed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4

Drainage:

Drains repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	41
Subsidiary sewers cleared by Health Department	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	918
Inspection chambers repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Cesspools emptied by Health Department	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	312

Dampness:

Roofs repaired and made watertight	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	51
Eaves guttering and down pipes provided or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	63
External walls protected from dampness	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	49
Internal walls repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	128
Damp-proof courses inserted	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Ventilation provided under floors	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Forecourts paved with cement concrete	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2

General:

Disused cesspools filled in	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Accumulation of refuse in yard removed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Dangerous cellar flaps repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Cooking ranges and coppers repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Sashes, doors, frames, floors, and stairs repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	168
Ceilings repaired and distempered	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	70
Back additions underpinned and repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Dustbins provided	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2

Factories Act, 1961

The following Tables give details of the work carried out at factories and premises used by outworkers.

I. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH

Premises	No. on Reg.	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	33	36	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	133	261	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	2	2	-	-
Totals:	168	299	-	-

II CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which Defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient ..	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	6	6	-	2	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	7	7	-	2	-

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

This Act came into force, for all practical purposes on 1st August, 1964 and for the first time non-industrial workers had comprehensive legislation covering their welfare. To implement the provision of the Act it was necessary to engage extra staff and the work of registration and inspection has proceeded smoothly. In the main all employers have been very cooperative and in nearly every case deficiencies have been attended to without delay. The position at the end of the year is given in the following table.

Five accidents were reported during the last two quarters. Although in all cases a certain amount of lack of care on the part of the employee was involved, suggestions were made to the management in two instances, the adoption of which, it is hoped, will prevent a recurrence in the future.

TABLE A
REGISTRATION AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of premises	No. of premises registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	123	114	87
Retail shops	365	352	171
Wholesale shops, warehouses	12	10	8
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	30	29	1
Fuel storage premises ..	3	3	1
Totals:	533	508	268

TABLE B
NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES

987

TABLE C
ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

Class of workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	877
Retail shops	1,689
Wholesale departments, warehouses	101
Catering establishments open to the public	313
Canteens	-
Fuel storage depots	52
Total:	3,032
Total Males	1,049
Total Females	1,983

TABLE D
EXEMPTIONS

Nil

TABLE E
PROSECUTIONS

Nil

TABLE F
INSPECTORS

No. of inspectors appointed under Section 52(1) of the Act	6	No. of other staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the Act.	2
--	------------	--	------------

Shops Acts

597 inspections were carried out in order to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Act. On no occasion was it necessary to take statutory action but on many occasions advice was given in respect of the keeping of the various forms and records.

There are 1,079 shops on the register.

Clean Air

Smoke Control Order No. 3 was made in December, 1964 and the Minister's confirmation was awaited at the end of the year. Although the greater part of the survey in connection with this area was done in the previous year, 241 inspections were made during 1964 to obtain further information. The making of this particular order was held up partly because of the difficult fuel situation, and partly to enable it to be dovetailed with an area which was being prepared by the Chatham Borough Council. When the order is confirmed it will cover an area of 1002 acres in the Darland, Hempstead and Wigmore districts containing 1,604 dwellings. The estimated cost of adaptations is £37,940, 30% of which is borne by the Council, 30% by the owners and 40% by the Exchequer.

During the year work also proceeded on the survey of the proposed area which will be No. 4 Smoke Control Order and 174 inspections were made for this purpose. This area is virtually the remainder of the Borough lying to the south of London Road, High Street, Rainham and Moor Street which is not already smoke controlled. It is envisaged that the task of survey and inspection will be completed during 1965 so that the Order can be made at the end of the year.

Rodent and Pest Control

The Council has a duty under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 to ensure that rats and mice in the area are properly dealt with. Specifically the area must be inspected from time to time and rodents on the Council's land must be destroyed; other owners and occupiers must be assisted or enforced to deal with the problem in their properties. This

duty is quite an important part of environmental hygiene work as it is not always realised that apart from the damage they do and the repulsion that the average person has for rats and mice, these pests can be the carriers of certain serious diseases which are communicable to man. The rodent operators work for the year is set out below:

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

					<u>Rats</u>	<u>Mice</u>
Number of complaints received	..	..			186	123
Infestations found	..	..	..	..	152	104
Infestations found on independent investigation	..	..	..	..	71	41

Action taken:-

Premises treated by Operator			223	144
------------------------------	----	----	--	--	-----	-----

Sewer Treatment:-

Number of manholes treated			274	
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Premises, Etc., Visited During 1964

						<u>No. of Visits</u>
Miscellaneous, including Pet Animals Act, etc.						1976
Factories, workshops and workplaces	..	..	..			299
Re notified infectious diseases	..	..	..			602
Houses (filthy or verminous)	..	..	..	..		1
Piggeries and Stables	..	..	..	..	..	15
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance	..	..	..			11
Public lavatories	..	..	..	..	..	73
Drains tested	..	..	..	..	..	427
Complaints received	..	..	..	..	..	1834
Total number of visits of all types made by Inspectors during the year	..	..	..	..	..	8151

Water Supply

Is provided by the Medway Water Board and 28 samples were taken during the year; 19 from the Gillingham area and 9 from the Rainham area. All proved satisfactory.

25,388 dwellings are supplied directly from the mains, this is more than 99.9% of the total number of dwellings in the Borough, which consist of:

Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23,722
Houses, and business premises and shops	..	..						1,572
Licensed houses	..	..	..	..	..	..		81
Boarding houses	..	..	..	..	..	..		4
Total dwellings	..	..	..	..	..	..		<u>25,379</u>

DELEGATED HEALTH SERVICES

Under the Local Government Act of 1958, the Borough is responsible under a scheme of delegation, for the administration of County Council Health and Welfare functions as indicated below.

The County Council continues to be responsible for the remaining services and also for policy and finance in respect of the delegated services.

National Health Service Act, 1946.

Section 22	Care of Mothers and Young Children
23	Midwifery
24	Health visiting
25	Home Nursing
26	Vaccination and Immunisation
28	Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care
29	Domestic Help

Mental Health Act, 1959

National Assistance Act, 1948

Section 29	Welfare arrangements for blind, deaf, dumb and crippled persons, etc.
30	Voluntary organisations for disabled persons' welfare.

Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1958.

Nurseries and Child Minders' Regulation Act, 1948.

The Care of Mothers and Young Children

Maternity Services

Gillingham, being a borough in which a considerable amount of housing development is taking place, is attracting young married people and it is not surprising that the birth-rate in the borough is significantly above the national average. An increasing number of these babies are being born at home although the mothers themselves would prefer going to hospital for the delivery, but as elsewhere in the country, the provision of hospital beds for maternity care is far below demand and selection is therefore strictly for those who show evidence of abnormality in the ante-natal period and also, for a limited number

because the conditions at home are considered unsuitable for delivery there.

The department is not involved in the ante-natal supervision of expectant mothers medically except at once weekly sessions at Balmoral Gardens Clinic staffed by a general practitioner working on a sessional basis but the health authority assists the local general practitioners undertaking Maternity Services by the work of 10 district midwives who examine mothers during the ante-natal period at regular intervals under the general practitioner's general supervision. These midwives' clinics were brought entirely within the clinics during 1964. Previously, due to lack of suitable accommodation, some of the district midwives were required to conduct clinics at their own homes where accommodation and equipment was somewhat lacking.

At two centres, Balmoral Gardens and Holding Street, relaxation classes for expectant mothers are held at regular intervals by the department's health visitors and midwives. These classes establish contact between health visitor and mother before the birth of her child and enable the health visitors to teach mothercraft and to introduce material in the health education field; visual aids such as films are used in this work. The happy relationship set up encourages the mothers to use the clinic as a centre for advice during the infant's early years.

Infant welfare services

The district midwives and staff midwives in hospital maternity wards cease to be responsible for the newly delivered mother and her infant after the child's ninth day of life. In general though where post-natal abnormality of the mother or neo-natal abnormality of the infant occur, supervision in hospital may continue. The health visitor working in the area of the family home is notified of the mother's delivery as soon as possible after the infant's birth together with information of any abnormality in either mother or child which has occurred.

Congenital abnormalities of the infant are registered by the department together with any known cause. These abnormalities are notified to the Ministry of Health at regular intervals so that the full resources of the National Health Service can be made available to the family to overcome any functional disability which may occur during the child's development.

Any other abnormality of ante-natal development or at the time of birth is recorded at the time of the infant's first visit to the welfare clinic and conditions which are liable to cause abnormal or delayed development are noted and the infant is placed on a register as "At Risk" and kept under regular observation in liaison with the general practitioner and any specialist adviser who may be consulted.

Within the infant welfare service, the stress is towards the detection of abnormality of function and development rather than the identification of the disease process though the two are inevitably co-related especially in the seeking of specialist advice and in treatment where this is possible.

There is still a tendency on the public's part to consider the infant

welfare centre as a place where the young child is weighed at frequent intervals and advice on the day to day difficulties in mothercraft sought often from totally unqualified assistants. Today however the emphasis is towards the education of the mother of the normally developing thriving infant as to her child's needs at the different stages of growth and to supporting the mother of the handicapped child to assist her in overcoming his development difficulties.

To assist in this evolutionary process, attempts were made in 1964 to relieve the more routine clerical duties of health visitors at infant welfare clinics by the appointment of paid clerical assistants working on a sessional basis so as to allow easier access by the mothers to the health visitors to perform this educational and supportive function, and this process will be continued in 1965 with the appointment of full time clerical assistants at the clinics. This process in no way supercedes the valuable assistance given in the past by voluntary helpers but their function will be directed towards the social elements which forms a vital part of the infant welfare clinic atmosphere and in which they have a special part to play.

One of the difficulties which had to be overcome in this evolutionary process is the lack of privacy in the present clinic premises designed many years ago. The mother with personal difficulties has little opportunity to discuss these intimately with the health visitor outside her own home. Modifications in the design of the present clinics and in the plans for future construction take this factor into account.

The handicapped infant presents special problems especially when the deviation from normal becomes more apparent as he grows. The mother is seeking more support from the infant welfare service and the medical and health visiting staff require more time to observe these infants and discuss the mother's needs with her. Although the home atmosphere is the ideal place for such observation and advice, this is prohibitive on the time of the clinic doctor and health visitor. Plans were therefore prepared for the establishment of special care clinics designated "Counselling clinics" where these handicapped children can be observed in group-play by qualified staff and their mothers given practical advice by demonstration in overcoming these difficulties. It is hoped to institute the first of these special care clinics which will require to be specially staffed and equipped during 1965. As well as providing support to mother and education to child during the period of attendance, it will be possible to assess the child's educational needs before the time of normal school entry.

Notification of Births under the Public Health Act, 1936.

The following is an analysis of the births notified during 1st January to 31st December, 1964 showing the place of confinement:

<u>Number of Births</u>	<u>Domiciliary</u>	<u>Hospital</u>
<u>1214</u>	<u>620</u>	<u>594</u>
	- 28 -	

The adjusted totals of notifications received during the year, i.e., the deduction of those births occurring within the Borough but relating to non-Borough residents, and the addition of those births occurring outside the Borough but relating to Borough residents, gives the following result from the Registrar General:-

Live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1656
Still births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
									<hr/>
Total	..	..	..						1671

Midwifery Services

There were 10 midwives employed by the authority, and they attended 629 deliveries during the year.

During this period the midwifery staff made 92 visits to patients who had been confined in hospital and discharged home before the 10th day of the lying-in period.

Child Welfare Centres

The Child Welfare Centres in the Borough are as follows:

<u>Centre</u>	<u>Sessions held</u>	<u>Times</u> <u>Sessions held</u>
The Clinic, Balmoral Gardens, Gillingham.	Weekly	Monday, Tuesday and Thursday p.m.
The Clinic, Holding Street, Rainham.	Weekly	Tuesday and Thursday p.m.
The Clinic, Twydall Green, Gillingham.	Weekly	Monday and Wednesday p.m.
The Clinic, 2 Magnolia Avenue, Wigmore	Weekly	Thursday p.m.
Hempstead Sports Pavilion	2nd and 4th in the month	Tuesday p.m.

The total attendances at child welfare centres during the year were 23,887 covering 3,772 children; of these 1,270 under one year of age attended for the first time during this period. At ante-natal and post-natal clinics there were 1,797 first attendances and 710 subsequent attendances.

Special Care of Premature Infants

During the year notifications were received of 41 babies who weighed $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less at birth. Details of these are given in the following tabulation.

Notifications were received relating to 10 premature still births, and details of these are also given in the following table:

Weight at Birth	Premature live births								Prem. still-births	
	Born in hospital				Nursed entirely at home or in a nursing home					
	Died				Died				Born	
	Total births	within 24 hours of birth	in 1 and under 7 days	in 7 and under 28 days	Total births	within 24 hours of birth	in 1 and under 7 days	in 7 and under 28 days	in hospital	at home or in a nursing home
1. 2 lb 3 oz or less	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
2. Over 2 lb 3 oz up to and incl. 3 lb 4 oz	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1
3. Over 3 lb 4 oz up to and incl. 4 lb 6 oz	8	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	4	-
4. Over 4 lb 6 oz up to and incl. 4 lb 15 oz	5	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
5. Over 4 lb 15 oz up to and incl. 5 lb 8 oz	23	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. TOTAL	39	2	2	1	2	-	-	-	9	1

No cases who were born at home or in a nursing home were transferred to hospital on or before the 28th day.

Health Visiting

The number of children under five years of age visited totalled 2,123. First visits were paid to 57 expectant mothers and to 1,839 children under one year of age. The number of families or households visited during the period was 3,857 and the total number of visits paid by health visitors was as follows:-

To expectant mothers	57
To children under 1 year	6085
To children aged 1 and under 2 years	3421
To children aged 2 and under 5 years	3992
To patients with tuberculosis	265
Other visits (hospital care, care of old people, etc.) ..	1068
Total Visits	<u>14888</u>

Nurseries and Child Minders (Regulation) Act

At the end of the year the following premises were registered as Nurseries or persons registered as Child Minders under the Act.

	<u>No. registered at end of year</u>	<u>No. of places</u>
Day Nurseries	2	80
Daily Minders	6	53

District Nursing Service (January to December).

At the 31st December, 1964 there were 14 district nurses employed in the Borough and one employed part-time only.

		Patients who were 65 or over at the time of the first visit during the year	Children who were under 5 at the time of the first visit during the year
No. of patients attended	1127	490	18
No. of Nursing Attendances made by District Nurses	37536	10360	124

Immunisation Against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough
Vaccination Against Smallpox and Poliomyelitis, 1964

Immunisation and Vaccination 1964.

I have set out below the diphtheria immunisation, whooping cough immunisation, smallpox and poliomyelitis vaccination and Triple Antigen Immunisation figures for 1964.

Triple Antigen Immunisation
(Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus)

Age at Date of Vaccination	Primary Immunisation	Reinforcing Dose
Under 1 year ..	455	-
1-4 years	733	584
5-14 years ..	25	330
15 years and over	-	2
Total ..	1213	916

2,129 persons were immunised or re-immunised by Triple Antigen injections by general practitioners and local health authority medical officers.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

The following table gives the number of second doses and third doses of oral vaccine given during the year ended 31st December, 1964.

Age at Date of Vaccination	Second	Third	Fourth
Under 1 year	186	191	-
1-4 years	1094	1096	-
5-14 years	63	161	801
15 years and over	147	158	-
Total all ages	1490	1606	801

3897 persons were vaccinated or re-vaccinated against poliomyelitis by general practitioners and local health authority medical officers.

Vaccination Against Smallpox

Age at Date of Vaccination	Vaccinated	Re-vaccinated
Under 1 year	5	-
1-4 years	524	4
5-14 years	26	4
15 years and over ..	34	9
Total all ages	649	17

666 persons were vaccinated or re-vaccinated against smallpox by general practitioners and local health authority medical officers.

Diphtheria Immunisation

Age at Date of Vaccination	Primary Immunisation	Reinforcing Dose
Under 1 year	2	-
1-4 years	32	69
5-14 years	9	177
15 years and over ..	-	-
Total all ages	43	246

289 persons were immunised or re-immunised against Diphtheria by general practitioners and local health authority medical officers.

Whooping Cough Immunisation

Age at Date of Vaccination	Primary Immunisation	Reinforcing Dose
Under 1 year	6	-
1-4 years	67	24
5-14 years	-	17
15 years and over ..	-	-
Total all ages	73	41

114 persons were immunised or re-immunised against whooping cough by general practitioners and local health authority medical officers.

B.C.G. Vaccination

The carrying out of this vaccination includes all persons of 13 years or over who are in full-time attendance at schools and educational establishments as well as persons in close contact with patients suffering from tuberculosis. By the end of the year 367 schoolchildren had been vaccinated and 144 contacts. The schoolchildren were vaccinated at clinics by Assistant County Medical Officers and the contacts by chest physicians at the chest clinics.

WELFARE SERVICES

The various services provided under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the National Assistance Act, 1948 and the Mental Health Act, 1959 have been maintained during the year.

With the appointment of an assistant district officer during the year more regular visitation to the home-bound mentally and physically handicapped has of course been possible. It is anticipated, however, that with the population approaching 76,000, further staff will be required for visiting purposes in order that adequate care may be afforded to the mentally ill, physically handicapped and aged persons.

Under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care, the provision of extra foods to patients suffering from tuberculosis continued to be made on recommendation of the chest physician. Under this heading also, recuperative residential care was provided to persons requiring a period of convalescence after an illness which had been treated in hospital or at home, and who were in need of further medical or nursing care of the type that could be provided by a general practitioner and home nurse, but could not have that care at home. During 1964 the demand for nursing requisites increased considerably with reference to walking frames, toilet seats, bath rails and bath seats, lifting poles, etc. and in particular to incontinence pads, a plastic disposable sheet, supplied to all persons who are incontinent. The steady expansion of the chiropody service, provided to the elderly, the physically handicapped and to expectant mothers, continued during the year. This service is provided at clinics and by domiciliary visitation where the patient cannot attend.

Many more physically handicapped persons were entered on the register during 1964, thus the demand for adaptations to properties, the provision of domestic and personal aids, and the number of persons sent on holiday under the scheme became greater. Since the appointment of a full time Handicraft Teacher in the Borough many more handicapped persons have of course benefited by regular visits and more varied craft instruction.

The number of registered blind and partially sighted persons increased during the year. Under the Handicapped Persons Scheme, blind persons now become eligible for consideration for adaptations so that it is envisaged that demand for such as stair hand rails will increase.

Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care

Tuberculosis - Notifications

During the year 39 persons were notified as suffering from tuberculosis. On the 31st December, 599 persons remained on the registers.

Provision of Extra Foods

42 recommendations were made by chest physicians, of which 41 were approved, the one not being approved, at the time of recommendation, the patients' financial circumstances were outside the application of the Council's assessment regulations.

Illness Generally - Recuperative Care

Recuperative residential care is provided under Sections 22 and 28 of the Act. This is restricted to instances where a person has suffered from an illness which has been treated either in a hospital or at home and whilst needing further medical and/or nursing care of the type that can be provided by a general practitioner and home nurse, cannot have that care at home.

22 applications for recuperative care were received and arrangements were made for 19 patients to have 2-4 weeks care in suitable nursing homes.

Welfare of the Permanently and Substantially Handicapped

At the 31st December, 1964 131 persons were registered as permanently and substantially handicapped.

Various assistance and advice was given. 50 persons received regular visits from the occupational therapist for craft instruction. 11 persons were supplied with domestic aids and adaptations were carried out in the homes of 11 persons to secure their greater comfort and convenience.

18 severely handicapped persons were provided with holidays.

2 car badges were issued to Disabled Drivers in the Borough in accordance with the recommendation of the Minister of Health, the object being to enable them to be readily identified, both by the Police and other road users and to ease the difficulty of severely disabled drivers in finding suitable parking places.

Medical Loans

121 persons were provided with nursing requisites during the year.

Chiropody

During 1964 there were 123 new applicants for chiropody treatment, of which 122 were Old Age Pensioners and 1 Physically Handicapped person. The total number of attendances for treatment was 1961 of which 695 (including 244 domiciliary visits) were by private chiropodists approved by the County

Council, and 1,266 (including 357 domiciliary) by the chiropodist appointed by the County Council to work part-time in Gillingham in addition to other areas.

The charges by private chiropodists are 9s. per visit to the surgery, and 15s. per domiciliary visit.

The maximum amount payable by patients is 4s. per treatment, and of the total number of 332 patients, 123 paid the maximum charges of 4s.; 7 paid lesser amounts, and 202 received treatment free of charge.

Domestic Help Service

The figures given below show various categories of households where service was provided during the year.

Maternity (lying-in) patients	..	..	..	..	..	..	85
Tuberculosis patients	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Person or persons over 65 years	..	..	..	..	..	..	441
Others, e.g., illness, mental subnormal, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	101
Total households served	..	..	..	..	..	..	<u>628</u>

The average number of helps employed at the end of the year was 64.

Family Help Service

Number of applications from the Children's Department	..	20
Number of families in which help has been provided	..	14
Number of children concerned for care	..	55

The following details are given showing the circumstances calling for the provision of this service:

(a) Mother in hospital for confinement or complications of pregnancy or confinement	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
(b) Mother to hospital	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
(c) Mother deserted the family	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
(d) Mother died	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
(e) Mother to convalescent home	..	..	..	..	..	..	-

Family Welfare Service

No case was recommended as suitable for this service.

Night Attendant and Evening Service

The following table gives details of services provided under the above scheme:

	<u>Night</u>	<u>Evening</u>
Number of applications received	80	12
Number of cases where help was provided ..	62	17
Number of cases terminated during 1964 ..	62	16
Number of cases carried forward to 1965 ..	-	1
Average age of patients	62 yrs.	79 yrs.

Five cases were brought forward in Evening Service from 1963.

Mental Health

Mentally Ill. 61 patients were referred to the Mental Welfare Officer during the year, of these 57 were admitted to hospital. In the other cases it was decided, either, that no action was necessary under the Mental Health Act or the patients were eventually referred for out-patient treatment by their own doctors.

15 cases were visited in the nature of after-care.

The Sub-normal and Severely Sub-normal. 2 patients were admitted to hospital on a permanent basis and 14 cases were admitted for "short term care" varying from one to two months.

13 patients remained on the waiting list for suitable hospital accommodation. Friendly oversight is available to 61 males, and, by the health visitors, to 59 females.

Training Centre. 32 Gillingham patients attended the Rochester Training Centre. 16 in the age group 5-15 years, and 16 aged 16 and over.

1 patient was receiving home training.

Blind and Partially Sighted Persons

The number of registered blind and partially sighted persons in the Borough at the 31st December was 194 and the age-sex grouping is:-

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Blind</u>		<u>Total</u>	<u>Partially Sighted</u>		
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Under 1 yr.	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 to 4 yrs.	1	-	1	-	1	1
5-10 yrs.	-	-	-	-	1	1
11-15 yrs.	-	-	-	1	-	1
16-20 yrs.	-	-	-	1	1	2
21-29 yrs.	6	-	6	2	1	3
30-39 yrs.	6	1	7	1	-	1
40-49 yrs.	6	1	7	-	1	1
50-59 yrs.	7	5	12	1	-	1
60-64 yrs.	6	5	11	-	1	1
65-69 yrs.	9	7	16	-	3	3
70-79 yrs.	14	31	45	3	4	7
80-84 yrs.	5	24	29	-	5	5
85-89 yrs.	2	18	20	-	2	2
90 and over	1	9	10	-	1	1
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	63	101	164	9	21	30
	-	-	-	-	-	-

The following table shows the action taken concerning the examination of persons alleged to be blind during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1964:

	Number of Examinations	Certified Blind		Not Certified Blind	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
New cases	37	8	15	4	10
Re-examinations:-					
Previously blind- still blind ..	-	-	-	-	-
Previously blind- now not blind ..	-	-	-	-	-
Previously not blind -still not blind	1	-	-	-	1
Previously not blind -now blind ..	3	-	3	-	-
Totals	41	8	18	4	11

St. Dunstaners

There are 2 St. Dunstaners registered in the Borough of whom 1 is

employed and 1 is unemployable.

Home teacher

There was one home teacher employed part time in the Borough, who made 816 visits. During the year, an average of 19 Registered Blind Persons have attended weekly at the Medway Club for the Blind, all sessions having been attended by the Home Teacher of the Blind, who gave instruction in pastime handicrafts.

The Blind and Cripple Guild continued to entertain local blind persons at their meetings and by several outings during the year.

Workshop Employment

There was one man employed at the Blind Employment Factory, Waterloo Road, S.E.1., as a brushmaker.

The rates of pay in the workshops are agreed rates fixed through the appropriate negotiating procedure. The workers' actual earnings are augmented by a sum of 15s. a week and additional supplementation as is necessary to bring the earnings plus augmentation up to an agreed minimum wage. The augmentation and supplementation is paid by the Council.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

There are 10 secondary and 24 primary schools in the Borough as well as the Danecourt Day Special School. The number of children on the School Roll on 31st December, 1964 was 11,613, an increase of 155 compared with the previous year. This upward trend has continued for a number of years.

The approval for the establishment of the post of an Assistant Medical Officer in the department in April, 1964 and the appointment of this officer shortly after is not reflected in any great increase in the number of medical inspections carried out in the year since this officer had been employed on a part-time basis to a considerable extent prior to her joining the permanent staff. It was possible however to commence the "zoning" of the school medical work; this allowed for continuity in the follow-up of children found to have defects and to establish a close liaison between head teachers and the department's medical officers. Long-term programmes for the medical inspections in schools were instituted in the Autumn of 1964 and these should be reflected in greater efficiency in the coverage in future years.

Routine medical inspections were carried out on the following groups of pupils:

- (a) Children in their first year at infant school
- (b) Children in their first year at junior school
- (c) Children in their first year at secondary school
- (d) Children in the last year of secondary education
- (e) Children of any age transferred from other areas to schools in Gillingham.

In addition, special examinations and re-inspections of children with defects were carried out as necessary. This part of the work is specially necessary at the Danecourt Special School and at the Special Units for the handicapped at Marlborough Road, Richmond Road, Woodlands Road and Fairview.

Handicapped Children

The School Health Service is responsible for the formal ascertainment of any type of handicap in childhood and only the school medical officer can recommend to the local education authority any form of special education treatment. This needs not only a very full and up-to-date knowledge of medical conditions but also complete information on the provisions of the 1944 Education Act and the facilities available which have been provided under the Act. The closest cooperation of the parents, the family doctor, the hospital consultant, the teacher and where appropriate, the educational psychologist, are required by the School Medical Officer in reaching the correct recommendation.

To keep the School Medical Officer informed of the advances in modern

medicine, full advantage must be taken of post-graduate courses provided. One Medical Officer attended a course on the assessment of mental subnormality during the year.

With the improved general standard of children's health, the careful assessment of the handicapped child, including the child who is failing to make satisfactory educational progress, occupies an increasing proportion of the school medical officer's time. These examinations are often time consuming, but it is of the utmost importance to the child that his condition should be thoroughly investigated.

Although statutory ascertainment of handicaps under the 1944 Act may not take place before the age of 2 years, it is important for medical and social reasons that handicaps should be discovered as early as possible in a child's life. A register is kept of all children under the age of 5 years who are known to be either mentally or physically handicapped.

HANDICAPPED PUPILS

Number of children attending special schools and units in Gillingham:

	<u>No. of pupils</u>
Danecourt Day E.S.N. School	92
Partially Hearing Unit:	
(1) Woodlands Road C.P. Infants' School	23
(2) Fairview C.P. J.M. School	16
Physically Handicapped Unit, Richmond Road	9
Special Subnormal Unit, Marlborough Road	8

Admitted to Danecourt and special day units:

	Marlborough Road Unit	Danecourt Day Special School	Glencoe Special Classes, Chatham	Physically Handicapped Units	Partially Hearing Units	Residential Special Schools
E.S.N.	4	9	1	-	-	3
Physically handicapped	-	-	-	3	-	1
Deaf	-	-	-	-	-	2
Partially hearing	-	-	-	-	3	-
Delicate	-	-	-	1	-	6
Partially sighted	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maladjusted	-	-	-	-	-	1

No. of Gillingham children of school age on 31.12.64 formally ascertained as handicapped pupils requiring special educational treatment	Blind	Partially sighted	Deaf	Partially hearing	Delicate	Physically handicapped	E.S.N.	Maladjusted	Epileptic	Speech defect	Dual defect	TOTAL
Attending day special school/units	-	-	-	9	-	7	49	-	-	-	9*	65
Awaiting placement in day special school/units	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	11
Attending residential special schools	1	1	5	1	4	6	5	6	-	-	-	29
Awaiting placement in residential special school	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	1	-	-	-	5
Total number of children of school age requiring special educational treatment	1	1	5	10	6	14	66	7	-	-	9*	110
Children of school age on register of handicapped pupils but not requiring special educational treatment and attending ordinary school	-	5	-	8	12	31	42	31	-	52	1	182

* Included in total.

UNDER FIVE HANDICAPPED

	Blind	Partially sighted	Deaf	Partially hearing	Delicate	Physically handicapped	E.S.N.	Maladjusted	Epileptic	Speech defect	Dual defect*	TOTAL
Children aged 2-5 years on 31.12.64 formally ascertained as handicapped pupils requiring special educational treatment												
Receiving	-	-	-	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	6
Awaiting	-	-	-	3	-	6	3	-	-	-	2	12

* Not included in total.

Danecourt School - Report for 1964

In the 5 years that it has been open Danecourt has become the educational and social centre for the E.S.N. children of the Medway towns - and since his arrival in January, 1964, Mr. Howarth, the headmaster has reinforced this feeling of integrating in the school the social and out of school activities that the children need. Stress has been laid on education in the social sense by giving the older boys and girls work and leisure activities to better equip them for the early years after the sheltered environment of school.

The health of the children in school continues to be good with resulting high attendances. All school leavers were examined well before their leaving date and where necessary re-assessments were made prior to recommendations for employment or further training. Routine medicals have also been carried out along with the re-examination of a very small number of children who cause concern.

Frequent case conferences have been held and the educational psychologist attends to carry out testing and assist with his findings and advice.

Regular visits have been made by the visiting speech therapist and the improvement in some children receiving therapy has been very good.

Dental inspection of all children was carried out and where necessary those requiring treatment attended the clinic. It is hoped to have regular practical dental training given to the younger children soon.

Commencing in the Summer term 1964 the school was fortunate to obtain the services of a part time physiotherapist for five half days a week. The result of the remedial therapy carried out is now showing in the improved posture and control of those receiving treatment.

Emphasis is still strong on social training. Personal hygiene continues to be closely supervised. Home visits by the headmaster and health visitor are made as required, although in a few cases cooperation is hard to obtain, parents are mostly very cooperative.

The admission of children is still decided by the Selection Panel. During the year 23 children were admitted. The roll has been approximately 92 throughout the year. In August, 1964 the building of two new classrooms with services, was commenced. It is planned to occupy the new classrooms in April, 1965. In view of this increased accommodation the Selection Panel at their Autumn meeting were able to virtually clear the waiting list by (a) offering places for April, 1965 to those considered to be in need (b) removing from the list those whose age and I.Q. means that it is unlikely that they would be admitted and (c) retaining on the list those about whom further information was required, their cases will be re-considered in February, 1965 together with new cases.

At the Selection Panel meeting in the Summer term it was agreed that a group be established to cater for the younger age group (6-7 years) of

children on the waiting list, some of whom were urgent cases from their present schools point of view. This group it is hoped will be established by April, 1965 in its own buildings. Ten children have already been selected for this group.

During the year 24 children left school. Three left the district. Two were transferred to the Training Centre before reaching statutory school leaving age. Of the remaining 19 all except one obtained employment and of these only one is now unemployed. Of previous school leavers who obtained employment as far as is known only one is at present unemployed.

S T A T I S T I C A L T A B L E S

PART I - MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED AND ASSISTED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Age Groups Inspected (By year of birth) (1)	No. of pupils Inspected (2)	Physical Condition of Pupils Inspected			
		Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
		No. (3)	% of Col. 2 (4)	No. (5)	% of Col. 2 (6)
1960 and later	-	-	-	-	-
1959	538	494	91.8	44	8.2
1958	579	500	86.4	79	13.6
1957	88	84	95.5	4	4.5
1956	127	127	100.0	-	-
1955	53	52	98.1	1	1.9
1954	14	14	100.0	-	-
1953	52	52	100.0	-	-
1952	151	139	92.1	12	7.9
1951	69	68	98.6	1	1.4
1950	294	289	98.3	5	1.7
1949 and earlier	1137	1122	98.7	15	1.3
Total	3102	2941	94.9	161	5.1

Although the proportion found to be unsatisfactory on physical examination increased over the previous years findings, this increase was most marked in the younger age groups, the proportion at school leaving age remaining constant. A proportion of the children seen at school entry had not been examined previously by the Department's medical officers or had not been seen since infancy when they had been brought to the Infant Welfare Clinics. Efforts will need to be made to persuade mothers to seek medical inspection throughout the pre-school years so that deviation from normal growth and development may be detected earlier.

OTHER INSPECTIONS

Number of Special Inspections	..	..	..	..	410
Number of Re-inspections	..	..	..	..	487
Total	..	..	..	..	897

There was marked decrease in the number of special inspections and re-inspections suggesting that the defects found at periodic examinations were dealt with adequately and were of short duration.

PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT AT PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS (excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin)

Age Groups Inspected (By year of birth) (1)	For defective vision (excluding squint) (2)	For any of the other conditions recorded (3)	Total individual pupils (4)
1960 and later	-	-	-
1959	14	152	156
1958	17	166	170
1957	3	17	17
1956	7	13	17
1955	3	6	7
1954	3	1	4
1953	5	5	10
1952	17	28	38
1951	10	11	18
1950	34	30	63
1949 and earlier	181	155	284
Total	294	584	784

EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	58
Errors of refraction (including squint)	1032
Total	1090
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were prescribed	160

Defects found by medical inspection during the year

Defect Code No. (1)	Defect or Disease (2)	Periodic Inspections										Special Inspections	
		Entrants		Leavers		Others		Total		Special Inspections		T (11)	O (12)
		T (3)	O (4)	T (5)	O (6)	T (7)	O (8)	T (9)	O (10)				
4	Skin	32	2	46	-	5	2	83	4	61		4	
5	Eyes -												
	a. Vision ..	34	92	215	29	45	18	294	139	10		3	
	b. Squint ..	25	8	3	2	2	-	30	10	8		1	
	c. Other ..	9	4	6	1	2	-	17	5	4		3	
6	Ears -												
	a. Hearing ..	29	62	7	-	3	8	39	70	39		67	
	b. Otitis Media ..	5	-	1	-	-	-	6	-	2		2	
	c. Other ..	2	-	2	-	-	1	4	1	10		-	
7	Nose and Throat ..	84	37	29	5	10	10	123	52	1		-	
8	Speech	13	41	1	-	-	3	14	44	1		3	
9	Lymphatic Glands ..	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	2	-		-	
10	Heart	7	11	10	3	4	3	21	17	-		2	
11	Lungs	26	14	10	2	2	1	38	17	-		-	
12	Development -												
	a. Hernia ..	5	3	1	1	2	-	8	4	-		-	
	b. Other ..	4	20	-	5	-	9	4	34	-		-	
13	Orthopaedic -												
	a. Posture ..	-	7	2	-	-	3	2	10	-		1	
	b. Feet ..	53	13	23	8	25	8	101	29	3		-	
	c. Other ..	6	3	21	4	6	3	33	10	-		-	
14	Nervous System -												
	a. Epilepsy ..	3	1	2	-	-	-	5	1	-		-	
	b. Other ..	6	3	2	-	-	-	8	3	-		-	
15	Psychological -												
	a. Development ..	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1		4	
	b. Stability ..	3	12	3	1	1	2	7	15	3		4	
16	Abdomen	18	7	9	-	2	1	29	8	-		-	
17	Other	4	-	6	-	2	1	12	1	164		3	

T = Treatment

O = Observation

Ophthalmic Clinics

Ophthalmic clinics are held at the School Clinic at Balmoral Gardens and conducted by a consultant working on a sessional basis. The work of the clinic may be summarised thus:

Sessions held	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	66
Number of children examined for first time	..	..						114
Number of children re-examined	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	949
Total attendances	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1063
Glasses prescribed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	155
Glasses not required or no change necessary	..	..						792
Referred to hospital	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6

Orthoptic Clinic

During the year 6 cases were referred to St. William's Hospital, Rochester for the orthoptic treatment of children suffering from squint.

DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
Received operative treatment	
(a) for diseases of the ear	-
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	29
(c) for other nose and throat conditions	-
Received other forms of treatment	10
Total	39
Total number of pupils in schools who are known to have been provided with hearing aids	
(a) in 1964	5
(b) in previous years ..	16

ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

	Number of cases known to have been treated
(a) Pupils treated at clinics or out-patients departments	-
(b) Pupils treated at school for postural defects ..	32
Total	32

DISEASES OF THE SKIN

	Number of cases known to have been treated
Ringworm - (a) Scalp	1
(b) Body	-
Scabies	5
Impetigo	3
Other skin diseases	31
Total	40

Child Guidance

A total of 19 children from Gillingham were treated at the Kent Education Committee's clinic in Chatham. There has been considerable pressure on this clinic which serves a wide area and the waiting list has varied throughout the years. There has never been any difficulty in arranging for priority in the treatment of urgent cases.

Speech Therapy

The work of this department which is under the control of the Kent Education Committee has been handicapped by shortage of staff. 28 children from Gillingham were known to have been treated during the year but expert advice was available for other children referred to whom therapy was not available on a regular basis.

OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
(a) Pupils with minor ailments ..	178
(b) Pupils who received convalescent treatment under School Health Service arrangements ..	1
(c) Pupils who received B.C.G. vaccination	367
(d) Other than (a), (b) and (c) above	-
Please specify: Catarrh, sore throats	-
Total (a)-(d)	546

Provision of Milk

Milk is provided free of charge to all school children. During December 9,441 children were supplied with milk each day. This represents 72.7 of the total number of children on the roll.

Summary of Nurses Work

(1)	Total visits to schools	..	..	..	..	..	..	124
(2)	Attendances at routine medical inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	174
(3)	Attendances at clinics	..	..	..	..	..	..	192
(4)	Visits to homes	..	..	..	..	..	..	50
(5)	Examination of heads and bodies re cleanliness	..	..	..	..	..	..	11,362
(6)	Notices sent re nits (children not excluded from school)	..	..	..	..	..	..	61
(7)	Notices sent re nits and vermin (children excluded from school)	..	..	..	..	..	..	72

INFESTATION WITH VERMIN

(a)	Total number of individual examinations of pupils in schools by school nurses or other authorised persons	11,362
(b)	Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	201
(c)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54(2), Education Act, 1944)	-
(d)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54(3), Education Act, 1944)	-

School Clinics

During the year 603 children were seen by the school medical officers at their consultation sessions and 1,045 attendances were made at the nurses' sessions. Attendances at the various clinics were as follows:

Gillingham	..	..	..	..	..	1140
Goudhurst	..	..	..	..	..	42
Rainham	..	..	..	..	..	446
Total	..	..	..	..	..	1648

Attendances at treatment clinics

				<u>Balmoral Gardens</u>	<u>Rainham</u>	<u>Total 1964</u>	<u>Total 1963</u>
Ringworm	..	..	..	1	-	1	8
Ear defects		..	..	168	94	262	36
Impetigo	..	..	..	12	-	12	8
Scabies	..	..	..	9	1	10	-
Other skin diseases		..	..	28	232	260	242
External eye disease	..		..	39	9	48	28
Other conditions		..	..	<u>609</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>729</u>	<u>582</u>
Totals	..	..	..	<u>866</u>	<u>456</u>	<u>1322</u>	<u>904</u>

Children suffering from the following conditions made first attendances for inspection:

	<u>Balmoral Gardens</u>	<u>Rainham</u>	<u>Total 1964</u>	<u>Total 1963</u>
Catarrh, sore throats, colds, etc.	5	1	6	1
Vermin of head or body, nits, etc.	42	9	51	17
Ringworm	1	-	1	1
Impetigo	4	-	4	3
Scabies	4	-	4	-
Other skin diseases ..	11	24	35	19
Defective vision, sore eyes, etc.	39	18	57	41
Nose and throat diseases	-	-	-	3
Nervous system:				
(a) Epilepsy	3	-	3	1
(b) Other	1	1	2	-
Hearing - otitis media, etc.	71	79	150	18
Heart and circulation	2	1	3	-
Orthopaedic:				
(a) Posture	2	-	2	-
(b) Flat feet	3	1	4	1
(c) Other	4	5	9	12
Other diseases and defects	61	2	63	133
Totals	253	141	394	250

Employment of Children

256 pupils were examined for fitness for employment out of school hours and certificates given for all these children.

Staff Medical Examinations

The following medical examinations were carried out and x-ray arrangements made in respect of the following during 1964:

School meals service staff	..	..	..	..	..	39
Caretakers and cleaners	..	..	..	..	..	27
Prospective student teachers	..	..	..	..	..	36
Teachers	..	..	..	..	..	26
Clerical and other staff	..	..	..	..	..	49
Total	..	..	..	..	..	<u>177</u>

Dental Services

The establishment allows for the services of two dental officers on the present staff. It has not been possible to fill this establishment for a number of years and the service has been provided by dental officers working on a sessional basis. However, routine dental inspections in schools have been continued as well as consultation and treatment sessions at the dental surgeries attached to the school clinics at Gillingham and Rainham.

A total of 7,974 children were inspected by the school dentist during the year and 1,311 children were treated.

The following table gives a summary of the work carried out by the dental service.

A	(1)	Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers -						
	(a)	At periodic inspections	..	..	..	..	..	7498
	(b)	As specials	..	..	..	..	..	<u>476</u>
		Total (1)	..	..	..	..	..	<u>7974</u>
	(2)	Number found to require treatment (includes 1(b))	..					<u>3898</u>
	(3)	Number offered treatment	..	..	..	..	..	<u>3779</u>
	(4)	Number actually treated	..	..	..	..	..	<u>1311</u>
B	(1)	Number of attendances made by pupils for treatment excluding those recorded at C(1)	..	..	..			<u>3972</u>
	(2)	Half days devoted to:						
	(a)	Periodic (School) Inspection	..	..	..			42
	(b)	Treatment	..	..	..	..	..	<u>415</u>
		Total (2)	..	..	..	..	..	<u>457</u>

(3)	Fillings:	(a)	permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	2214
		(b)	temporary teeth	..	..	..	..	<u>1387</u>
	Total (3)			..	..	..	..	<u>3601</u>
(4)	Number of teeth filled:	(a)	permanent teeth	..	..			1846
		(b)	temporary teeth	..	..			<u>1223</u>
	Total (4)			..	..	..	..	<u>3069</u>
(5)	Extractions:	(a)	permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	183
		(b)	temporary teeth	..	..	..	..	<u>1200</u>
	Total (5)			..	..	..	..	<u>1383</u>
(6)	Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction			..	..	..	..	<u>724</u>

C Orthodontics:

(1)	Cases commenced during the year	..	..	..	..			30
(2)	Cases carried forward from previous year			..	..			38
(3)	Cases completed during the year	..	..	..	..			6
(4)	Cases discontinued during the year	..	..	..	..			12
(5)	Pupils treated with appliances	..	..	..	..			12
(6)	Removable appliances fitted	..	..	..	..			31
(7)	Fixed appliances fitted	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
(8)	Total attendances	..	..	..	..	..	..	357
(9)	Number of pupils supplied with artificial teeth					..		2
(10)	Other operations	-

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